

# Dynamical systems method (DSM) for unbounded operators

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## Abstract

Let  $L$  be an unbounded linear operator in a real Hilbert space  $H$ , a generator of  $C_0$  semigroup, and  $g : H \rightarrow H$  be a  $C_{loc}^2$  nonlinear map. The DSM (dynamical systems method) for solving equation  $F(v) := Lv + gv = 0$  consists of solving the Cauchy problem  $\dot{u} = \Phi(t, u)$ ,  $u(0) = u_0$ , where  $\Phi$  is a suitable operator, and proving that i)  $\exists u(t) \quad \forall t > 0$ , ii)  $\exists u(\infty)$ , and iii)  $F(u(\infty)) = 0$ .

Conditions on  $L$  and  $g$  are given which allow one to choose  $\Phi$  such that i), ii), and iii) hold.

## 1 Introduction

Let  $H$  be a real Hilbert space,  $L$  be a linear, densely defined in  $H$ , closed operator, a generator of  $C_0$  semigroup (see[1]),  $g : H \rightarrow H$  be a nonlinear  $C_{loc}^2$  map, i.e.,

$$\sup_{u \in B(u_0, R)} \|g^{(j)}(u)\| \leq m_j, \quad j = 0, 1, 2, \quad B(u_0, R) := \{u : \|u - u_0\| \leq R\}, \quad (1.1)$$

where  $g^{(j)}$  is the Fréchet derivative of order  $j$ ,  $R > 0$  is some number, and  $u_0 \in H$  is some element. In many applications the problems can be formulated as the following operator equation:

$$F(v) := Lv + g(v) = 0. \quad (1.2)$$

We want to study this equation by the dynamical systems method (DSM), which allows one also to develop numerical methods for solving equation (1.2). The DSM for solving

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equation (1.2) consists of solving the problem:

$$\dot{u} = \Phi(t, u), \quad u(0) = u_0, \quad (1.3)$$

where  $\dot{u} := \frac{du}{dt}$ , and  $\Phi(t, u)$  is a nonlinear operator chosen so that problem (1.3) has a unique global solution which stabilizes at infinity to the solution of equation (1.2):

$$\text{i) } \exists u(t) \forall t > 0, \quad \text{ii) } \exists u(\infty), \quad \text{iii) } F(u(\infty)) = 0. \quad (1.4)$$

In [2] the DSM has been studied and justified for  $F \in C_{loc}^2$  and

$$\sup_{u \in B(u_0, R)} \|[F'(u)]^{-1}\| \leq m_1; \quad (1.5)$$

for monotone  $F \in C_{loc}^2$ ; for monotone hemicontinuous defined on all of  $H$  operators  $F$ ; for non-monotone  $F \in C_{loc}^2$  such that there exists a  $y$  such that  $F(y) = 0$  and the operator  $A := F'(y)$  maps any ball  $B(0, r)$  centered at the origin and of sufficiently small radius  $r > 0$  into a set which has a non-empty intersection with  $B(0, R)$ ; and for  $F \in C_{loc}^2$  satisfying a spectral condition:  $\|(F'(u) + \varepsilon)^{-1}\| \leq (c\varepsilon)^{-1}$ ,  $0 < c \leq 1$ , in which case  $F$  is replaced by  $F + \varepsilon I$  in (1.3), and then  $\varepsilon$  is taken to zero.

*In this paper the DSM is justified for a class of nonlinear unbounded operators of the type  $L + g$ , where  $L$  is a generator of a  $C_0$  semigroup,  $g \in C_{loc}^2$ , and some suitable additional assumptions are made.*

Which assumptions are suitable? A simple example is:

$$\|L^{-1}\| \leq m. \quad (1.6)$$

If (1.6) holds, then (1.2) is equivalent to

$$f(u) := u + L^{-1}g(u) = 0, \quad f \in C_{loc}^2. \quad (1.7)$$

Assume

$$\sup_{u \in B(u_0, R)} \|[I + L^{-1}g'(u)]^{-1}\| \leq m_1. \quad (1.8)$$

This assumption, holds, e.g., if  $L^{-1}g'(u)$  is a compact operator in  $H$  for any  $u \in B(u_0, R)$  and the operator  $I + L^{-1}g'(u)$  is injective.

Our first result is the following theorem:

**Theorem 1.1.** *Assume (1.6), (1.8), and let  $\Phi := -[I + L^{-1}g'(u)]^{-1}[u + L^{-1}g(u)]$ . If*

$$\|u_0 + L^{-1}g(u_0)\|_{m_1} \leq R, \quad (1.9)$$

*then equation (1.2) has a unique solution  $v \in B(u_0, R)$ , the conclusions i), ii), and iii) hold for (1.3), and  $u(\infty) = v$ .*

**Remark 1.1.** *If  $L$  is not boundedly invertible, i.e., (1.6) fails, then one can use the following assumption (A):*

**Assumption (A).** *There exists a sector  $S = \{z : 0 < |z| \leq a, |\arg z - \pi| \leq \delta\}$ , which consists of regular points of  $L$ . Here  $a > 0$  and  $\delta > 0$  are arbitrary small fixed numbers.*

If assumption (A) holds, then

$$\|(L + \varepsilon)^{-1}\| \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon \sin(\delta)}. \quad (1.10)$$

This estimate holds in particular if  $L = L^* \geq 0$ , and in this case  $\sin(\delta) = 1$ .

The following theorem is our next result:

**Theorem 1.2.** *Assume that  $L^* = L \geq 0$  is a densely defined linear operator,  $g \in C_{loc}^2$ ,  $g'(u) \geq 0 \forall u \in H$ , equation (1.2) is solvable and  $v$  is its (unique) minimal-norm solution. Define  $\Phi(u) = -[I + (L + \varepsilon)^{-1}g'(u)]^{-1}[u + (L + \varepsilon)^{-1}g(u)]$ ,  $\varepsilon = \text{const} > 0$ . Assume that (1.8) holds with  $L_\varepsilon := L + \varepsilon I$  replacing  $L$ , and  $m_1 = m_1(\varepsilon) > 0$ . Then problem (1.3) has a unique global solution  $u_\varepsilon(t)$ , there exists  $u_\varepsilon(\infty) := v_\varepsilon$ , and  $F(v_\varepsilon) := Lv_\varepsilon + g(v_\varepsilon) = 0$ . Moreover, there exists the limit  $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} v_\varepsilon = v$ , which is the unique minimal-norm solution to (1.2).*

In section 2 proofs are given.

## 2 Proofs

*Proof of Theorem 1.1.* If  $\Phi = -[I + L^{-1}g'(u)]^{-1}[u + L^{-1}g(u)]$ , and  $p(t) := \|u + L^{-1}g(u)\|$ , then  $p\dot{p} = -p^2$ . Thus

$$p(t) = p(0)e^{-t}. \quad (2.1)$$

From (2.1), (1.8) and (1.3) one gets

$$\|\dot{u}\| \leq m_1 p(0)e^{-t}, \quad p(0) = \|u_0 + L^{-1}g(u_0)\|. \quad (2.2)$$

Inequality (2.2) implies the global existence of  $u(t)$ , the existence of  $u(\infty) := \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} u(t)$ , and the estimates:

$$\|u(t) - u(\infty)\| \leq m_1 p(0)e^{-t}, \quad \|u(t) - u_0\| \leq m_1 p(0). \quad (2.3)$$

If (1.9) holds, then (2.3) implies  $\|u(t) - u_0\| \leq R$ , so the trajectory  $u(t)$  stays in the ball  $B(u_0, R)$ , that is,  $u(t) \in B(u_0, R) \forall t \geq 0$ . Passing to the limit  $t \rightarrow \infty$  in equation (1.3) yields

$$0 = -[I + L^{-1}g'(u(\infty))]^{-1}[u(\infty) + L^{-1}g(u(\infty))]. \quad (2.4)$$

Thus  $u(\infty) := v$  solves the equation  $v + L^{-1}g(v) = 0$ , so  $v$  solves (1.2), and therefore i), ii) and iii) hold. Theorem 1.1 is proved.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 1.2.* If  $L^* = L \geq 0$  in  $H$  and  $g'(u) \geq 0$ , then, for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , Theorem 1.1 yields the existence of a unique solution  $v_\varepsilon$  to equation (1.2) with  $L$  replaced by  $L + \varepsilon I$ . This solution  $v_\varepsilon = u_\varepsilon(\infty)$ , where  $u_\varepsilon(t)$  is the solution to (1.3) with

$$\Phi = -[I + (L + \varepsilon)^{-1}g'(u)]^{-1}[u + (L + \varepsilon)^{-1}g(u)].$$

Let us prove that  $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} v_\varepsilon = v$ , where  $v$  solves (1.2). We do not assume that (1.2) has a unique solution.

Let  $v_\varepsilon - v := w$ . Then  $Lw + \varepsilon v_\varepsilon + g(v_\varepsilon) - g(v) = 0$ , so, using the assumptions  $L \geq 0$  and  $g'(u) \geq 0$ , one gets  $\varepsilon(v_\varepsilon, v_\varepsilon - v) \leq 0$ ,  $\|v_\varepsilon\|^2 \leq \|v_\varepsilon\|\|v\|$ , and  $\|v_\varepsilon\| \leq \|v\|$ ,  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ . Thus  $v_\varepsilon \rightharpoonup v_0$  and  $Lv_\varepsilon + g(v_\varepsilon) \rightarrow 0$ , where  $\rightharpoonup$  stands for the weak convergence in  $H$  and the convergent subsequence is denoted  $v_\varepsilon$  again.

In the above argument the element  $v$  can be an arbitrary element in the set  $N_F := \{v : Lv + g(v) = 0\}$ . Thus, we have proved that  $\|v_0\| \leq \|v\|$  for all  $v \in N_F$ .

*Let us prove that  $L(v_0) + g(v_0) = 0$ , i.e.,  $v_0 \in N_F$ .*

Assume first that  $v_0 \in D(L)$ . We prove this assumption later. The monotonicity of  $L + g$  yields:

$$(L(v_\varepsilon) + g(v_\varepsilon) + \varepsilon v_\varepsilon - L(v_0 - tz) - g(v_0 - tz) - \varepsilon(v_0 - tz), v_\varepsilon - v_0 + tz) \geq 0, \quad (2.5)$$

where  $t > 0$ , and  $z \in D(L)$  is arbitrary. Let  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  in (2.5). Then, using  $v_\varepsilon \rightharpoonup v_0$  and  $Lv_\varepsilon + g(v_\varepsilon) \rightarrow 0$ , one gets:

$$(-L(v_0 - tz) - g(v_0 - tz), z) \geq 0 \quad \forall z \in D(L). \quad (2.6)$$

Let  $t \rightarrow 0$  in (2.6). Then  $(Lv_0 + g(v_0), z) \leq 0 \quad \forall z \in D(L)$ . Since  $D(L)$  is dense in  $H$ , it follows that  $Lv_0 + g(v_0) = 0$ , so  $v_0 \in N_F$ .

We have proved above that  $\|v_0\| \leq \|v\|$  for any  $v \in N_F$ . Because  $N_F$  is a closed and convex set, as we prove below, and  $H$  is a uniformly convex space, there is a unique element  $v \in N_F$  with minimal norm. Therefore, it follows that  $v_0 = v$ , where  $v$  is the minimal-norm solution to (1.2) and  $v_0$  is the weak limit of  $v_\varepsilon$ .

*Let us prove the strong convergence  $v_\varepsilon \rightarrow v$ .*

We know that  $v_\varepsilon \rightharpoonup v$ . The inequality  $\|v_\varepsilon\| \leq \|v\|$  implies

$$\|v\| \leq \liminf_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \|v_\varepsilon\| \leq \limsup_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \|v_\varepsilon\| \leq \|v\|.$$

Therefore  $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \|v_\varepsilon\| = \|v\|$ . Consequently one gets:

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \|v_\varepsilon - v\|^2 = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} [\|v_\varepsilon\|^2 + \|v\|^2 - 2\Re(v_\varepsilon, v)] \leq 2[\|v\|^2 - (v, v)] = 0.$$

Thus,  $v_\varepsilon \rightarrow v$ , as claimed.

Since  $g$  is continuous, it follows that  $g(v_\varepsilon) \rightarrow g(v)$ .

Equation

$$Lv_\varepsilon + \varepsilon v_\varepsilon + g(v_\varepsilon) = 0, \quad (2.7)$$

the inequality  $\|v_\varepsilon\| \leq \|v\|$ , and the relation  $g(v_\varepsilon) \rightarrow g(v)$  imply  $Lv_\varepsilon \rightarrow \eta := -g(v)$ .

Let us prove that  $v_0 \in D(L)$ .

Because  $v_0 = v$ , it is sufficient to check that  $v \in D(L)$ . Since  $L$  is selfadjoint, and  $Lv_\varepsilon \rightarrow \eta$ , one has:

$$(\eta, \psi) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} (Lv_\varepsilon, \psi) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} (v_\varepsilon, L\psi) = (v, L\psi) \quad \forall \psi \in D(L).$$

Thus  $v \in D(L)$  and  $Lv = \eta$ .

Let us finally check that  $N_F$  is closed and convex.

Assume  $F(v_n) := Lv_n + g(v_n) = 0$ ,  $v_n \rightarrow v$ . Then  $g(v_n) \rightarrow g(v)$  because  $g$  is continuous. Thus,  $Lv_n \rightarrow \eta := -g(v)$ . Since  $L$  is closed, the relations  $v_n \rightarrow v$  and  $Lv_n \rightarrow \eta$  imply  $Lv = \eta = -g(v)$ . So,  $v \in N_F$ , and consequently  $N_F$  is closed.

Assume that  $0 < s < 1$ ,  $v, w \in N_F$  and  $\psi = sv + (1-s)w$ . Let us show that  $\psi \in N_F$ . One has  $w \in N_F$  if and only if

$$(F(z), z - w) \geq 0 \quad \forall z \in D(L). \quad (2.8)$$

Indeed, if  $F(w) = 0$ , then  $F(z) = F(z) - F(w)$ , and (2.8) holds because  $F$  is a monotone operator. Conversely, if (2.8) holds, then take  $z - w = t\eta$ ,  $t = \text{const} > 0$ ,  $\eta \in D(L)$  is arbitrary, and get  $F(w + t\eta), \eta) \geq 0$ . Let  $t \rightarrow 0$ , then  $(F(w), \eta) \geq 0 \quad \forall \eta \in D(L)$ . Thus, since  $\overline{D(L)} = H$ , one gets  $w \in N_F$ . If  $\psi = sv + (1-s)w$ , and  $v, w \in N(F)$ , then  $(F(z), z - sv - (1-s)w) = s(F(z), z - v) + (1-s)(F(z), z - w) \geq 0$ . Thus,  $N_F$  is convex.

Theorem 1.2 is proved.  $\square$

**Remark 2.1.** Theorem 1.2 gives a theoretical framework for a study of nonlinear ill-posed operator equations  $F(u) = f$ , where  $F(u) = Lu + g(u)$ , where the operator  $F'(u)$  is not boundedly invertible. In this short paper, we do not discuss the case when the data  $f$  are given with some error:  $f_\delta$  is given in place of  $f$ ,  $\|f_\delta - f\| \leq \delta$ . In this case one can use DSM for a stable solution of the equation  $F(v) = f$  with noisy data  $f_\delta$ , and one uses an algorithm for choosing stopping time  $t_\delta$  such that  $\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \|u_\delta(t_\delta) - v\| = 0$ , where  $u_\delta(t)$  is the solution to (1.3) with  $\Phi = \Phi_\delta$  chosen suitably (see [2]).

## References

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